



California Department of Veterans Affairs

Veterans News

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November 20, 2008

Gov. Schwarzenegger Announces \$18.4 Million Job Grants Designated to Help Veterans, Stimulate California's Economy

Directs Labor and Workforce Development Agency to Explore Additional Grant Options for Californians Affected by Economic Downturn

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger today announced \$18.4 million in job grants designated to help veterans, many of them returning from war in Iraq and Afghanistan, transition into high-wage, high-growth civilian occupations utilizing the skills they learned in the military. More than 2,800 veterans will receive assistance through \$12.4 million in Workforce Investment Act (WIA) funds from the state and \$6 million in matching funds from 14 local agencies for a total investment of \$18.4 million. The Governor has also directed his Labor and Workforce Development Agency to explore additional job training grants for Californians affected by the economic downturn.

"These grants not only honor the service of our veterans, but they will also help provide a much-needed stimulus to the California economy," said Governor Schwarzenegger. "These brave women and men have volunteered to protect our freedom and way of life – and as they return to civilian life, we must help them find jobs that provide a sustainable wage as well as career advancement opportunities."

"We are grateful to Governor Schwarzenegger for continuing his commitment to our State's retuning military men and women," said Tom Johnson, Secretary of the California Department of Veterans Affairs. "These veterans have learned valuable skills while serving their country, and taking advantage of these abilities now not only serves the veteran but also our workforce. And that is good news for the economy."

While top priority will be given to veterans who recently left the service, these grants will also provide services to veterans with service-connected disabilities, veterans who served on active duty during a war or in a campaign, veterans with significant barriers to employment and eligible spouses of veterans. The grants vary from provider to provider but a general range of services includes: job training, support services to help vets overcome barriers to employment such as post traumatic stress syndrome, job-placement assistance and case management.

Funds will be allocated from two program years, 2008-09 and 2009-10, and will be subject to federal funding availability. The California Labor and Workforce Development Agency's Employment Development Department exercises oversight authority for the funds.

Recipients of the job grants designated to help veterans include:

Applicant	County	Grant
Able-Disabled Advocacy, Inc.	San Diego	\$1,000,000
Asian American Drug Abuse Program (AADAP)	Los Angeles	\$1,000,000
Community Career Development	Los Angeles	\$1,000,000
Inter-City Services, Incorporated	Alameda	\$650,000
Motherlode Consortium	Tuolumne	\$485,730
North Bay Resource Center - Vietnam Veterans of CA	Sonoma	\$1,000,000
North County Interfaith Council	San Diego	\$1,000,000
Orange County	Orange	\$1,000,000
San Bernardino Jobs and Employment Services Department	San Bernardino	\$500,000
Solano County	Solano	\$1,000,000
South Bay Center for Counseling	Los Angeles	\$1,000,000
United States Veteran Initiative-Inglewood	Los Angeles	\$1,000,000
Vietnam Veterans of San Diego	San Diego	\$1,000,000
West Hills Community College District	Fresno	\$792,970

Total Amount Approved

\$12,428,700

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Note to editors: This Veterans News and previous CDUSDVA news releases, advisories, and newsletters are available on our website at www.calvet.ca.gov and via email from Jaime.Arteaga@cdva.ca.gov.